Teacher Notes – THE PUBLISHING COMPANY PART A

Scenario

You have been asked to create a database for the East Berkshire Publishing Company. Currently all records are stored on a spreadsheet.

The Company would like to be able to store and report data on how their books are published. The database will record information about:

- Authors
- Titles
- Editions

An edition is the actual physical copy of a book, which includes the type of book, publication date, edition number, number of copies sold and price.

The book type can be hardback, paperback or audio. The company wants the flexibility to add new book types at a later date.

There must always be at least one edition of a book sold.

If an edition sells between 2000 – 4999 copies it is bronze, 5000 – 10,000 it is silver and over 10,000 it is gold.

When a first print run is sold out (EditionNumber = 1), a second print run is done and these books are EditionNumber = 2.

Books cannot be published before 01/07/2020.

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General Information

The activities presented here follow the style of the new 5 hour format for the Unit 2 NEA from Pearson.

This NEA style was created in a direct response to the instances of mass cheating and plagiarism that occurred under the old-style assessment where students had 10 hours to work on a single database. What happened was that student would go online to various forums and share the question paper or the answers.

To respond to this, Pearson has cut down the NEA to 5 hours.

In Part A students are required to build a database and create some simple queries and reports and carry out testing.

In Part B, students are **GIVEN** a brand new database and are required to create forms for this.

The days and times of the exams are set by Pearson and are no longer at the institution's discretion.

The idea is that is it now impossible for students to share answers online. The downside is that although the amount of material for students to produce in the NEA has been substantially reduced, the course content remains the same.

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Part A

Activity 1

The bit to get across to a student is the idea of an ‘edition’.

When you look at the front of a book, it will usually tell you if it’s a first edition, second edition which is defined in this scenario and data model as Edition number.

This then represents the idea of a physical copy of a book in whatever form it takes.

The idea behind the scenario is that:

- A book can have many editions
- An author can produce many books, but as each book has editions, the author table is linked to the edition table rather than book.
- A book can be published in many different types, but these will also correspond to the edition, which stops having repeated data in the book table.

This implies that there is a central edition table, with three other tables in 1:Many relationships with this one. It is entirely possible for other solutions to exist, but the one presented here is the most logical and straightforward.

Each individual row of the edition table will therefore represent a unique copy of a book edition that will be published for a given print run. The copy can exist in one single physical format (audio, hardback, paperback) and will have a corresponding Edition Number (1, 2 etc); This is to allow a 1st hardback edition, 2nd hardback edition, 2nd paperback edition etc.

Some students might want to move the genre into another table, but this is not necessary.

This ERD will assume a 4 table structure. As these presentations are editable, you have full control of what you present to your students and this should give you a good start to work from. You can add to these presentations of remove content at your will.

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Activity 2

This should be relatively straightforward.

The key is to:

- Get all the fields correct
- Get the

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